Gauchos celebrate Homecoming

by Andrew Kaplan

As Homecoming draws closer, students at ECHS are preparing for this year's parade.

On October 18, an El Cerrito tradition continues: the homecoming parade. The parade includes the marching band, floats created by the individual classes, and homecoming kings and queens elected by the classes.

This year will be the first time that new band leader Mr. Yonemura will be involved in an El Cerrito homecoming parade. He is "very excited" about it. As of this writing, no pieces have been chosen yet, but the band will probably play "Down the Field", EC's fight song, and "Big C", UC Berkeley's fight song. The band has also been working on four pieces for Cal Band Day (Nov. 2), and these pieces may be included.

The students in the band have no fears about performing in the parade. Yonemura claims that they've had enough practice, they just need to spend the last few weeks polishing their act. Since EC has a voluntary band, they don't have the money to make it as polished as a required band. Yonemura, however, is convinced that his band is just as ready.

The spirit of competition between classes continues with the tradition of float-building. In this spirit, one junior claimed,"The other classes of ECHS had better be porepared for a fight against us juniors, lest we bask in thespoils of victory." Other classes

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VOLUME LXVIII Number 2

EL CABALLERO

EL CERRITO HIGH SCHOOL October 18, 1985

Forensics off to quick start

by Patchen Markell

Veteran forensics competitors Keira Chism, Sarah Armstrong, Patchen Markell, Debbie Lowe, Elaine Miller, and Indra Coles got the EC Forensics team off to a quick start at the first two tournaments of the year, held Sept. 28 and Oct. 5 at Bay area schools.

Keira Chism, a junior, received a 3rd place award and was nominated for an Outstanding Speaker award in Student Congress at the September 28 tournament at the College Preparatory School in Oakland.

Chism, along with over 350 other students, participated in three sessions of simulated Congressional floor debate on topics such as the Strategic Defense Initiative, the welfare system, and South Africa.

The second tournament, held at San Ramon High School, featured several different events, which gave El Cerrito an even larger opportunity to win.

Sarah Armstrong and Patchen Markell, juniors who also compete as partners in debate, both advanced to finals in National Extemporaneous Speaking, which centers around current events. Markell recieved a second place award and Armstrong took fifth. Each spoke four times on topics including the Lottery, economic sanctions against South Africa, and the new trend toward conservatism in America.

Senior Debbie Lowe competed in Expository Speaking and took fourth place, delivering a speech about body language.

Junior Elaine Miller explained the problem of credit card fraud to judges of the Original Oratory event, and wound up in fifth place after the final round.

Last but not least, junior Indra Coles was tied for third but dropped to fourth on the tiebreaker in Original Prose and Poetry, giving a speech called "The Last Actor."

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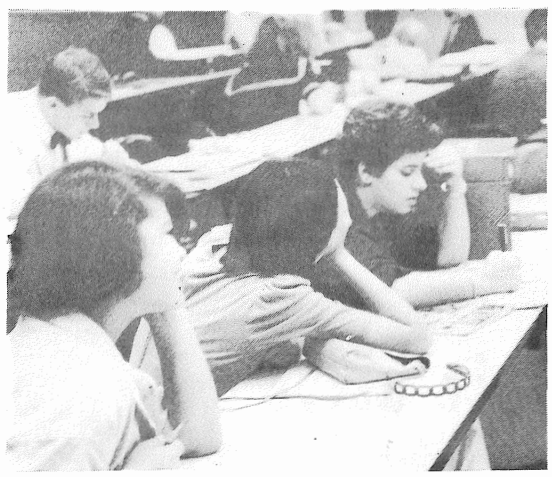


Forensic competitors Sarah Armstrong, Carol Tang, and Keira Chism concentrate.

All of EC's winners will receive slots in the State Qualifying Tournament to be held in spring, where the Bay Area 's best compete to attend the state tournament at the University of the Pacific in Stockton.

Other EC competitors at the two tournaments included senior Carol Tang, junior Andrew Kaplan, and freshmen David Bergman, Chris Harmon, Darius Nicks, and Katya Weiner. All the competitors will have several more tournaments at which they can attempt to earn slots at the State Qualifying Competition.

Frosh officers elected

by Danyal Payne

The freshmen class of 1989 finally elected their class officers. Lydia Cheney was elected president, and Garret Hayashida was named vice-president. No one ran for secretary so the president has to select someone to take that office.

CONTINUED NEXT COLUMN

Now that the candidates have been elected, their main goals for the year look promising. Both Lydia and Garret consider fundraising as their primary objective. At the same time, they want their class to have fun and be more spirited.

Ideas for fundraisers include: a potluck, candy sales, car washes, and possibly a flower sale. These activities will bring in money for the class. To start their year off, they want to have a potluck sometime in the near future. This looks like a good start for the freshmen and let us hope they get off on the right track.

Committee revives spirit

by Tina Goldberg

A plan for a new spirit squad was recently proposed at a meeting of class Central Committee members. The plan, which originated in the Senior Central Committee, is designed to promote class spirit, unity, and fill the void left by the absence of cheerleaders.

According to Senior Central Committee members Carolyn Brooks and Elissa Greene, the new spirit squad would not be so much a squad as it would be an informal group of dedicated students who want to cheer at school sports events.

The proposed squad would be different from the old spirit squad in several other respects, too. Unlike the former group, which was comprised of juniors and seniors, the new squad would include ten to twelve representatives from all four classes who are Central Committee members. According to Brooks, students would be chosen in an effort to create a "sexually and racially integrated" group that represents the entire student body.

CONTINUED BACK PAGE

"Traitor" joins EC counselors

by Alice Wu

Mr Howard Yamamoto has been hired to fill the void created by the retirement of counselor Mr. Mahan. Yamamoto is taking students with last names A through D.

Before coming to El Cerrito High, Yamamoto was a counselor at Pinole Jr. High for six years. Before Pinole Jr. High, he taught for many years. If you want to know how old he is, his reply is "old enough where my hair will turn white in a few years."

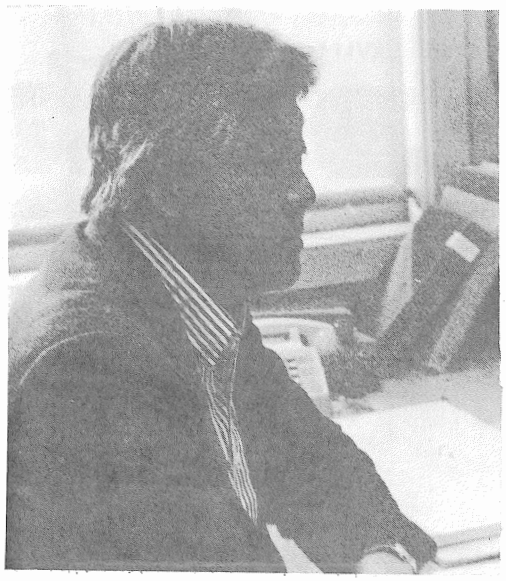
Yamamoto has always wanted to be a high school counselor. He feels that being a counselor is actually offering service to the students. Just from the short time he has been here, he has noticed that the EC staff is really doing their best to work for the students.

Yamamoto states that ECHS not only has a great counseling staff but a great staff overall. "El Cerrito has one of the best staffs in the district", he says. Everyone on the staff really knows his area." He feels like a student learning new things everyday. His first thought when assigned to ECHS was "Oh my gosh, I'm assigned to a rival school," because of the competition between ECHS and PVHS.

Yamamoto's guiding philosophy on how to treat the students is that first, he will treat all students the way he wants them to treat him. And second, he states that being new, there will be many things he does not know, but he will never try to pretend as if he does. He will ask other counselors whenever he needs to.

Yamamoto hopes to really get into the main stream of ECHS; to really become part of the school and to work with it and work for it. his goal for this year is to "survive."

He feels that although he has to change his wardrobe from blue to green, and his kids are calling him traitor, he still likes his new job very much.



Counselor Yamamoto hopes to survive the year.

Teamwork keeps music alive

by Dina Murakawa

Just think, what would a parade be without music? What would Homecoming be without a marching band, and a concert with no musicians? Well, without the help, dedication, and efforts of the students to raise money, the highly acclaimed El Cerrito High Music Department would be almost nowhere.

At every CAL-Berkeley home football game, students and parents from the music department sell Cokes. For the first two games of this year, they have already earned over $2000. Last year, a total of $4256.05 was earned and they have high hopes of earning over $5000 for this season. This will be their 5th year of phenomenal fundraising.

Mr. Paul Yonemura, director of music, says that at least $5000 per year is needed to keep the music program running. Because the district only gives the department approximately $500 per semester, selling Cokes at these games is a must. "If the parents and students didn't earn these funds, the program would die in about 2 weeks," said Yonemura. He says selling Cokes is better than any other fundraiser because it is a quick and profitable way to earn money.

The money made from the sales is spent on the various necessities of maintaining the department, such as purchasing new supplies and music, and instrument repairs. The money provided by the district would be insufficient to cover these expenses. The instruments would be worn out, could not be repaired, and the library of music could not be expanded, Yonemura explained.

He thinks that it is a "disgrace" that the district does not fund operating costs and that students and parents have to work for the money needed. Apparently, the district doesn't regard music as a high priority. However, Yonemura feels that it is and that music is needed because it teaches the students how to work as a team or unit. He thinks being social and working with people is a major priority and this is an important part of what music programs provide.

Yonemura hopes that the district will eventually give more funds to misic so that Coke sale funds can be used for expanding the program even to include more of a variety of classes and events.

As the students work hard selling Cokes and earn the money needed, music is able to survive at El Cerrito. Because of this, music is alive and well and the marching band proudly marches once again at the Homecoming parade.

SKATERZ RULE

by Darren Kani

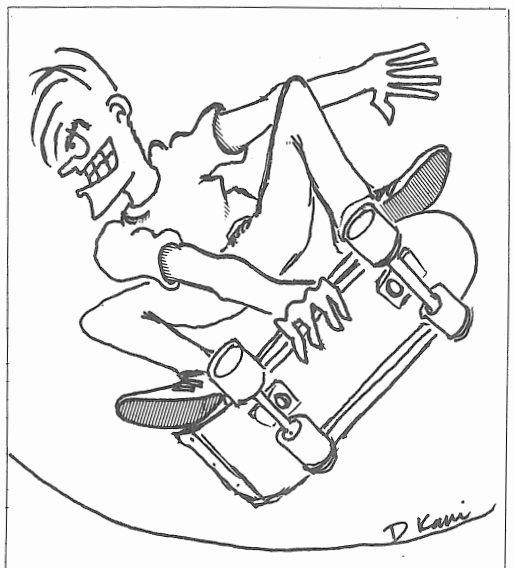
"Handplants", "360's", "slides"... the popularity of skateboards is once again on the rise. With it, however, comes a question which many debate. Should skateboards be allowed on school grounds?

Currently, the answer is no. Why? According to district policy, every student has the right to a safe atmosphere in which to learn. Anything that threatens this must be cut out. "The safety of the skater cannot be guaranteed," says Mr. Boles, Admistrative Vice Principal. "If somebody got hurt, the school is responsible." Therefore, skateboards are not allowed on school grounds at all. If you are caught with your skateboard on campus, you are warned. If you continue to bring your skateboard to school, it is confiscated.

Many students who use skateboards are against this rule. Some said they used skateboards to get to and from school and felt skateboards were just a form of transportation, like a bike. Others said they brought their skateboards to use after school. All of the people who used skateboards said that they did not even know there was a rule concerning skateboards on campus and that they usually didn't use their skateboards during school hours, when it posed a threat of injury.

What can be done about this rule? Get involved. Present your problem and solution to the Student Association and let them help you. Mr. Boles feels that something could be worked out- maybe a trial period. Many people who used skateboards said that if they were allowed to bring their skateboards to school, they would not use it during school hours. In any case, some sort of compromise could come about.

What is the future of skateboards at El Cerrito High? Nobody knows, but until something is done about it, skateboard users will just have to "stall".



THE SKATEBOARD:
America's next endangered species?

Out on the Town

by Andrew Kaplan

Well, it's time to get ready for the homecoming dance. Thought about what else you're going to do that night? You can't just take your date to the dance! Why don't you take her out to dinner? Don't know a good restaurant? Well, that's the purpose of this column: to suggest a few possibilities.

My first suggestion is Ristorante Venezia, an excellent Italian restaurant located in Berkeley, near Martin Luther King Jr. Way and University Ave. (1902-1903 University). If you think that Italian food begins and ends with spaghetti and Pizza Hut, you'd better get over to this place and learn the truth. The food is excellent, the prices are fair, the service is good, and the atmosphere is comfortable. It's not too formal, but you might have to wait a bit to get in. But when you do, you'll end up with a great dinner.

In the mood for Spanish food? Over on Telegraph Ave. is a little-known restaurant called Casa De Eva. Again, it has a nice atmosphere (Just like a Spanish villa!). It has some of the best Spanish food I've ever tasted. And it's all Spanish. Even the sodas come from Mexico. Again, it is moderately priced and informal. There is usually no wait, so you don't have to worry about getting hungry in the restaurant.

A couple of other places that might interest you are Juan's, in Oakland (great atmosphere), and Chez Panisse, on Shattuck (a bit high). You might also try the Fourth Street Grill, in Berkeley, but you might want to go to the bank first. They only accept cash. One last suggestion would be Upstart Crow and Co. Service is good, but the prices are a bit high. The food, however, is worth it. And that's all that really matters in the end, isn't it?

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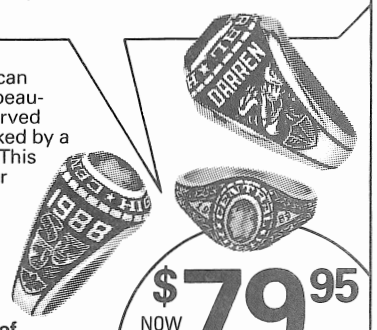

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Top students compete for scholarships

by Debra Lowe

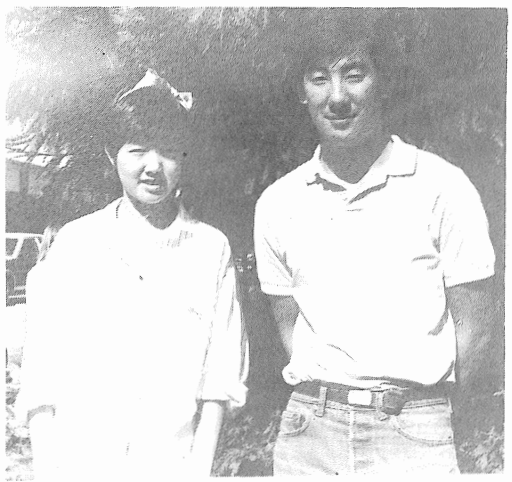
Three students from ECHS have qualified as semifinalists in the 1986 National Merit Competition. Scott Furuta, Carol Tang, and Erika Yutani will be competing against 15,000 other students for scholarships worth as much as $16,000.

The students qualified as semifinalists by scoring high on the Preliminary Scholastiic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test(PSAT/NMSQT) last October. One of the purposes of the test is to reduce the large number of students interested in the Merit Program to a smaller number of semifinalists. 90% of the semifinalists qualify as finalists who then go on to compete for approximately 5,800 scholarships valued at about $21 million.

The finalists are judged on PSAT scores, SAT scores, school records, faculty recomendations, and a personal essay. Approximately 40% of the finalists will receive scholarships.

The students were surprised to get a call from Mrs. Blackman one evening telling them they were National Merit semifinalists. None of them expected to get as far as they did. Furuta attributes his achievement to his "ability to call up everything he has learned over the years." Yutani's success is "knowing vocabulary from reading a lot." Tang calls it "luck."

Their advice for juniors who will be taking the test either tomorrow or Friday is, "don't worry." Tang points out "there's always other chances for scholarships," and Furuta advises students to "take the test seriously. Shoot for the scholarships but don't worry about it."



Carol Tang, Scott Furuta, and Erika Yutani (not pictured) are this year's National Merit Semi-finalists.

EC or Kennedy: who will reap the glory?

by Charan Johl

El Cerrito and Kennedy, old rivals, will meet again at the EC Homecoming game on October 18.

Last year, EC overwhelmed Kennedy 49-0. The Eagles won the second game by a slim margin. Now the question is what will be the outcome of this next confrontation?

According to EC football coach Frank Milo, El Cerrito is definitely going to win on the 18th. According to Milo, Homecoming will be a very important game this year. "It's the league opener. The

CONTINUED NEXT COLUMN

EC players will be ready, and after such a tough pre-league schedule, I hope they rebound."

Milo stressed that "Homecoming will be a game that will be played with emotion and excitement because of the big rivalry between the two teams and because it's the first night league game."

As for the Kennedy team, Milo commented that they have a pre-league record of 4-0 and in the game against Fremont they showed that although they did badly in the first three quarters that, "They can hang in there and come back."

He said that they have "Outstanding skill people on their team - recievers, running backs, defense backs. And reciever Terry Yogi is probably the best reciever in the Bay Area." The Coach finished by saying,"We feel We're going to win."

Steve Alameda, Kennedy football coach, was a bit more cautious about his opinions. About EC he said,"I can't give you a very valid opinion yet, but know that Coach Milo will have them totally prepared, physically and emotionally."

He said that although the Kennedy team isn't nearly as good as last year, they're generally doing better than he expected at this time. Coach Milo also said that he hopes his team will do well but that Homecoming, "usually isn't as important to the players as it is to the student body." But this year since it is the league opener and since the RBAL is such a small league, this and the other three games to be played this season will be crucial.

As for Kennedy's opinions about EC, Coach Alameda said that their opinions of us were similar to our opinions of them and That when you have two schools so close together and the kids living mostly in the same neighborhoods, tensions will build. "But I think these feelings are what makes any spirited high school football game."

He ended by saying that,"this game isn't the end of the world, it's just one win or one loss."

OPINION

"Diversity" has no limits

by Damon Fries and Andrew Sullivan

In the last issue of the El Caballero, we received our first free-lance editorial, concerning the need for a variety in music at El Cerrito's school functions. One student, Jennifer Wong felt that soul music unfairly dominated the senior potluck.

This is a valid argument. During our three years at El Cerrito High, this has been a sad but true fact. Understanding that soul is the preferred music at this school, we must also take into account the musical tastes of the entire minority - not just one aspect of the minority - a point Jennifer failed to cover. As she wrote, "To put it bluntly, more new wave and top forty was needed at the potluck" This statement totally defeated the purpose of her "good in intentions" editorial. Jennifer's initial argument was that the music played at school functions should satisfy a greater audience. However, by "bluntly" requesting more new wave and top forty, she has classified diversity as her personal musical preference. Let us not forget that there are those who enjoy punk, jazz, rock, and symphonic music, and who, though in the minority, would also like their musical tastes met, just as Jennifer does.

Random Ramblings

REBUTTAL

name withheld by request

During a recent perusal of the EL CABALLERO, my attention was called to an article entitled "Random Ramblings" by the Insanity Squad. Several ideas that were espoused by this group have prompted me to write this formal rebuttal. I shall address, in turn, these three points: 1) The need for more in-depth classes and less required classes, 2) Only scholastic achievement is emphasized in school, 3) College-bound students cheat and mindlessly memorize material in order to go to a good college. I will attempt to refute or present a different opinion to these charges.

Allow me to address the first point. The Insanity Squad (hereafter referred to as "IS" for the purpose of space conservation) states that the "educational system is so restrictively structured that creativity and versatility are greatly inhibited." They expound further on this point by attacking the idea of required classes and the lack of in-depth classes. First, required classes are necessary. The classes combine to give the student a practical knowledge which will be useful

CONTINUED NEXT COLUMN

later on in life. Take, for example, English. It's obviously not proper to say "I ain't." This required class teaches the student to say "I am not." In addition, this class teaches the student how to write a formal essay rather than a rambling, disjointed "essay" that some students employ. Both skills will be useful when attempting to write a resume for a job.

Another fine example is the required math class. It certainly would not do if a student went through life unable to balance a checkbook or subtracting .01 from $1,000 and coming up with $99999.99. An article in READER'S DIGEST entitled "Why Johnny Can't Read" discussed how many students were graduating without the basic skills to get a job. They couldn't even compose a sentence, let alone write a resume. Why? This was attributed to the fact that these students had not had the material taught in required classes. Given this idea, could one really agree with the IS when they say that there should be a "lessening of required classes"? I think not. Along these lines, the group brings forth the idea that classes only "scratch the surface" and that more in-depth classes are needed. What the IS fails to see is that there isn't enough time to take in-depth courses as well as required classes. Besides, that isn't the purpose of a high school. It is designed to give the student a general overview so that they will find out what they want to major in in college.

With regard to the second point. The IS asserts that scholastic achievement is stressed more than education, "that students focus their endeavors more on their grades than the actual acquisition of knowledge." They attempt to back this by citing the existence of the honor roll and college. Once again, I find myself in disagreement with the group. I tend to think both are emphasized. It's quite impossible for a student to have a high grade point average and not have learned something. the IS doesn't seem to see this fact. With scholastic achievement comes education. I do indeed agree that students are encouraged to succeed, as grades are the currency of the job market. But keep in mind, scholastic achievement is gained by studying and by learning. To further the third point, the IS states that college-bound students are forced to "cheat and mindlessly memorize their way through school. On the subject of cheating, I can easily name several people that never cheated on exams, yet are still going to good colleges. College-bound students rarely need to cheat as they already have studied for the exam. The IS attempts to support the idea of cheating by mentioning the American Experience exams. I am not saying that cheating is right, but let's, for a moment, examine the other side of the coin. The book that's used - the Bailey - is so chock-full of information that the exams were nearly impossible. For example, one question on one of those dreadful exams was something like, "Who did the South try to emulate?" The answer was Sir Walter Scott (the point of this is that this chap was mentioned in one sentence and never mentioned again). With questions like this, and with five chapters with twenty to thirty pages each per exam, it's quite obvious why students were forced to cheat on the exams. It boils down to whether to get an F because a student didn't know

CONTINUED PAGE 5

Absurd record ratings

by Damon Fries

When I read about the restrictions and censorship that existed in this country in the past, I sometimes breathe a sigh of relief that, though not entirely so, we are much freer nowadays. Recently, however, a group of "concerned parents" have instigated a campeign that will greatly restrict us: record ratings.

Currently, there is a group of "concerned mothers" (who happen to be married to senators) out to force record companies to rate not only their records, but rock videos as well. The records and videos would be branded with a label denoting whether it is sexually explicit, glorifying violence, or being satanic. Furthermore, I think that the first reaction that comes to most people's minds is that this whole idea is preposterous. This proposition would not only challenge our constitutional freedom, but would ruin the music industry. By looking back at our history, it is quite apparent that the most ineffective method of discouraging people from things is by banning it or making it inaccessible. Booze, drugs, and now music. What we have here are wives of senators abusing the powers of their husbands.

I'm the first to admit that music seems to be the main influence on teenager's lives. It influences the way they dress, act, and think. Many times the influence can haven extremely negative effect on them, but does that warrant making it inaccessible? And will it be inaccessible? Of course not!!!! Parents don't have much input in what their kids buy and the stores will certainly not card the kid when they want to buy records! College stations would continue to play banned material, regardless of the law. They might even devote a special program for the playing of banned material.

How can you rate an album? Granted, some are blatantly "evil" in intention, but most contain many songs, each of different nature. Each individual song would have to be rated. The number of songs recoded annually is astronomical.

CONTINUED PAGE 5

WARNING: THIS RECORD IS RATED "O." PARTS OF THIS RECORD CONTAIN LYRICS OF SATANIC NATURE.
SNOW WHITE & THE SEVEN DWARVES
D. Kanni

REBUTTAL continued

that Andrew Jackson was dying of lead-poisoning because of two bullets in him, or doing something to make the test easier.

The next item is the concept of "mindlessly memorizing." The IS seems to think that all college-bound students memorize their way to college. False, for example in geometry, there is no way to mindlessly memorize one's way through this course. Even a simple proof, like the alternate angle theorem, requires that all students do a bit of thinking. Or better yet, an essay was recently assigned in an English class dealing with one aspect of a novel. Memorizing isn't of much help on an essay, but thinking is. As most of the collge-bound students received "a"s on the exam, it's obvious that they can think and aren't just "mindlessly memorizing" their way to college!!

In conclusion, the IS puts forth three charges: 1) The need for more in-depth classes and less required classes, 2) The idea that scholastic achievement more than learning, 3) People cheat and memorize their way to college. That needs a bit of clarification. In-depth classes take up too much time and aren't meant to be offered in high school. Scholatsic achievement, along with education, are both stressed. Even though cheating is not right, one can see why students did it on the American Experience exam. Mindlessly memorizing is quite wrong, as students DO think. Since refuting the above charges was the purpose of this essay, I see no point in writing further.

DO YOU HAVE RALLY SPIRIT?

by Katy Grosso

Ever since my freshman year at El Cerrito, I have looked up to the seniors. I recall my first rally and feeling lost up there in the bleachers. How I longed for the priveledge of sitting on the floor in the center of all the action. I was so bewildered that not only could the whole school fit in the gym, but that all the students happily joined together with one purpose in mind: to get totally spirited for the coming night's football game.

Over the past couple of years, however, the main purpose for rallies has somehow become lost-- or ignored. There is no need for the rude, obnoxious, and immature behavior displayed by the people who "Boo" the other classes during the traditional class competition or the people who refuse to sit in their own class' designated seating section. When people lose the "Win,Win,Win" attitude for the football team (or whatever team the rally happens to be for) they tend to become rowdy and incorrigable. This, in turn, leads to an unorganized and ineffective rally.

The student body of El Cerrito High School needs to be reminded that we participate in rallies to boost the team's (and our own) spirit. As a result of this school unity, we hope to win at the following game or meet. During our next rally, let's all remember the true meaning of rallies and school spirit.

RECORD RATINGS

Songs are interpreted by those who listen to them, so who's to say what's tasteless and what isn't? Certainly not the wives of senators.

The "concerned parents" of today's society always bother me. Instead of trying to teach their children to cope with new or odd ideas or situations, they would be more content to put a blindfold over them and have them lead a nice, sheltered life. By blinding children to reality, parents are merely increasing their child's curiosity and enhancing the chances of that child becoming directly involved with it. A bad relationship with parents can be caused when the child is constantly lied to or told he is "too young to know."

We have to learn where the line lies between helping kuds and hurting them.

A CHANGE FOR THE BETTER

Over the past two years there has been a definite change occuring at El Cerrito - clothes and hairstyles have become much more diversified - and I like it.

There is nothing more pleasing to the eye than seeing a student walking down the hall with a bright orange mohawk - it kind of wakes me up. But what makes a bright orange mohawk (or any other color mohawk) so special is the fact that the student is now willing to dress according to his/her personal taste - regardless of what others might think! So the next time we criticize someone for his/her style of dress, let's take a good look at ourselves, and ask,"I wonder if that person is trying to say something about himself or the way he feels about something through his dress?" Because whether we realize it or not, dressing is just another type of body language, and a lot can be said and learned through one's dress code. I suppose even GUCCI sweatshirts add to the atmosphere here at E.C.- I am not yet sure what they add, but there must be something beneath that label.

DANCE ORDEAL

by Doug Dennis

Personally, I like the idea of having the homecoming dance on a Saturday rather than on a Friday. Mr. Boles, Administrative Vice-Principal, thinks the dance would be nice on a Friday because don't show up on time at dances and that most people wouldn't show up until ten even if the dance started at 8:30. I don't think it's long enough to keep my attention.

CONTINUED NEXT COLUMN

El Caballero is an official student publication of El Ceriito High School, 540 Ashbury, El Cerrito, California 94530. The opinions expressed in these editorials are not necessarily those of the El Caballero or the ECHS administration. All letters to the editor must be signed; the writer's name will be withheld by request. For advertising rates, write to El Cerrito High School, c/o Journalism Department.

The bad thing about the dance on a Friday is the football team and band members, who have to change might miss a large portion of the dance. If the dance were on a Saturday, students in these positions wouldn't have to rush.

Furthermore, the money goes to the school. If the dance were longer, more students would come, the school would make more money and everyone would be happy.

THIS IS YOUR PAPER MAKE IT SPECIAL WHY NOT CONTRIBUTE?

The editorial staff of the EL CABALLERO would gladly welcome any contributions by you, the student body, concerning anything that's on your mind. If you'd like to submit a story, drop it off at room 404 during the school day.

THE CABBY

Volume LXVIII Number 2

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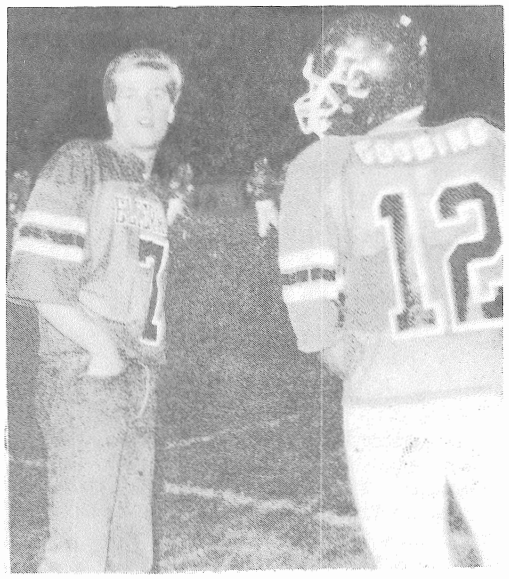
SPORTS

De La Salle downs EC



John Walker (#7) is expected to return to action tonight while Jeff Gooding (#12) is a possible starter as quarterback.

by Robby Momono

El Cerrito lost its third consecutive game as the East Bay's No. 1 ranked De La Salle Spartans rolled to a convincing 35-0 win.

The highly-touted Spartan team scored on its first possession and never looked back. In the opening period, De La Salle capitalized on two EC fumbles, converting both into Spartan touchdowns. The first score came on a 5 yard pass from quarterback Rick Bianchina to Mike Gibson. The conversion was good and De La Salle led 7-0 . Later, Russell Lawson broke a 35 yard touchdown run and with the conversion De La Salle led 14-0.

EC got its best field position in the second quarter when they started on the Spartan 24 yard line but the De La Salle defense tightened up and stopped the Gauchos . The critical play was a fourth and two on the Spartan 16. Torey Lovett got the call but was unable to get the first down and De La Salle took over.

Later in the quarter, De La Salle's Antonio Vernon scored on an eight yard run and with the successful conversion the Spartans led 21-0. It appeared it would stay that way until halftime but on the ensuing kickoff EC fumbled and De La Salle recovered. Bianchina ran a quarterback sneak and De La Salle took a 28-0 advantage into the intermission.

To open the second half, Jeff Gooding replaced Brad(injured hand)Brown at quarterback. EC's offense remained ineffective but the defense held De La Salle to just one second half score. That score came on a 65 yard strike from Bianchina to Pat Hannigan making it De La Salle 35-0. The victory upped De La Salle's record to 5-0 while EC dropped to 2-3.

CONTINUED NEXT COLUMN

GAUCHO NOTES: Washington of Fremont, the No. 2 ranked team in the East Bay coasted to a 46-14 victory over El Cerrito. However, the loss opened up the Gaucho passing attack as Brown completed 20-32 passes for 245 yards.

El Cerrito battled the Oakland Wildcats for the full 48 minutes of the game but lost on the final play as Oakland receiver Fred Thomas took a pass and raced 77 yards for the touchdown giving Oakland the 18-12 win.

In tonight's Homecoming game, El Cerrito will host the defending 3A North Coast Champion Kennedy Eagles. This marks the beginning of league play for both teams so come out and support the Gauchos tonight at 7:30.

Harriers continue winning season

by Veli Lehman

As predicted by Coach Helen Lehman the El Cerrito Cross Country team continues to have an outstanding season. The Gaucho varsity men's team won the Stevenson Invitational on October 13, while the women's team placed 2nd. The Gaucho's also won a tri-meet against College Park and Pittsburg.

The Gaucho's also placed well in the Stanford Invitational.

The men's team, led by senior Anthony John 2nd, outscored all teams at the Stevenson Invitational in Carmel. Junior Alex Da Silva placed 3rd, Steve Turnipseed 8th, and Stuart Wiseman 11th to spark the Gaucho win. Junior Ray Yokoi and Sophomore Danyal Payne rounded out the winning varsity team.

The men's team again led by John 2nd, outscored College Park 29 to 30 (lowest score wins). Wiseman 4th, Da Silva 7th, Turnipseed 8th, and Morgan McClarty 10th rounded out the scoring places of the varsity team.

The varsity teams also ran at the large and competitive Stanford Invitational. John and Da Silva placed 17th and 26th respectively out of over 300 runners.

The women's team placed 2nd at the Stevenson Invitational behind Clovis High School 44-53. Individual champion Veli Lehman led the Gauchos with teammate Debbie Binnall placing 4th and Sophomore Marisa Gardella 5th. Lori Okumura and Rose of Sharon Stoneall rounded out the scoring varsity places.

The women's team, led by Binnall, like the men edged out College Park 29-30. Gardella 2nd, Lehman 3rd, Okamura 13th, and Stoneall 14th rounded out the strong Gaucho team.

At the Stanford Invitational the womens team placed an outstanding 6th place. The women were led by Teresa Poy's excellent 12th place finish. Binnall 22, Lehman 28, Gardella 32, Okamura, Stoneall, and Erin Wiseman rounded out the 6th place varsity team.

SOCCER BOUNCES BACK

by Jeff Pryde

The men's soccer program at ECHS has been revived for the 1985-1986 school year after a three year absence. It will be coached by Manuel Catao.

Catao, who is 21 years old,graduated from ECHS in 1982. He played on ECHS' last soccer team in '82 that was coached by Nick Carmilich and Ben Hammond. According to Catao "They were good administrators but had no background in soccer and weren't able to teach players any skills."

The 1985-1986 soccer season starts mid-November and ends in February. Teams competing will include: Berkeley, Piedmont, Encinal, Richmond, Kennedy and Pinole.

Catao said that practice would last about 2 hours scrimmaging, learning skills, and conditioning. Practices would be 5 days a week. He stressed, "If you don't practice, you don't play."

Due to the large turnout of 70 people (55 boys and 15 girls) there will be a varsity, junior varsity and a girls' team which would be coached by Mr.Wimberly. Catao said,"I would like to make the soccer program at ECHS just as serious and demanding as any other athletic sport ECHS offers."

Mr.Catao and Mr.Boles wrote a letter to the parents of the participants of the soccer team asking for parent contributions. Catao said, "The more people that show up, the easier it will be to raise the necessary funds to insure the existence of the team. Mr.Catao strongly stated "No money no team!"

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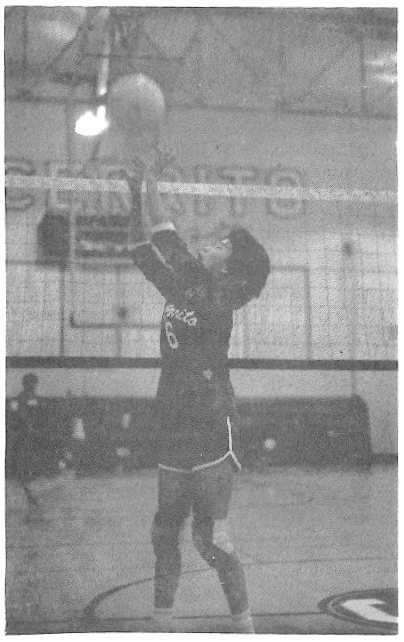
Spikers smash Spartans



Returning junior Lisa Nakamura sets during Gaucho victory.

by Amy Page

With consistant, solid team effort and play, the El Cerrito girl's volleyball team soundly defeated the Pinole Valley Spartans in two games,15-6 and 15-9.

The lady spikers were led by the strong serves and sets of senior Christy Lopez. Freshman Karin Horninger also served well and had several blocks and spikes. Junior Janet Schultz aided the team with three spikes in the first game. The other team members contributed with solid defense and good team play.

Second year coach Roddy Lee was happy with the wins and the play of his team. "The team," he says, "has come a long way since our first practice. From a fundamental perspective we have improved in leaps and bounds. We still have a ways to go offensively and defensively, but I think we have the potential to win the league."

Several members of the team agree with Coach Lee. They feel that they have improved greatly, have more experience this year, and should do well this season. The spikers were enthusiastic about their new team uniforms as well as their sparkling victory.

The Gauchos are now 2-0 in RBAL play and 3-2 overall. In the league opener against Kennedy, after struggling in the first game, the Gauchos battled back for a 4-15, 15-9, 15-8 win.

The junior varsity team defeated Pinole in two games, 15-9 and 15-5. Sophomores Lorna Stoneall and Rachel Davidman and freshman Casie Espinosa sparked the Gauchos to victory with strong serves, good setting and solid defense.

SPORTS CALENDAR

X-COUNTRY

DATE	PLACE	MEET
Oct. 19	MARINIER INVITATIONAL	GARIN PARK, HAYWARD
Oct. 23	C.P., NORTHGATE, MT. DIABLO	BALDWIN PARK, MT. DIABLO
Oct. 26	SOQUEL INVITATIONAL	SANTA CRUZ
Oct. 30	ANTIOCH, PITTSBURG, NORTH.	NORTHGATE H.S.
Nov. 06	RBAL CHAMPIONSHIPS	TILDEN PARK
Nov. 16	NCS 3A CHAMPIONSHIPS	TBA
Nov. 23	MEET OF CHAMPIONS	TBA
Nov. 30	NOR CAL CHAMPIONSHIPS	TBA
Dec. 05	KINNEY WESTERN REGIONALS	WOODWARD PARK, FRESNO

VOLLEYBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Oct. 22	KENNEDY	3:15
Oct. 24	PINOLE	3:15
Oct. 29	DE ANZA	3:15
Oct. 31	BYE	
Nov. 05	BERKELEY	3:15
Nov. 07	PLAYOFF (IF NECESSARY)	TBA
Nov. 12	CLASS 3A CHAMPIONSHIP (FIRST ROUND)	7:30
Nov. 14	CLASS 3A CHAMPIONSHIP (FINALS)	7:30
Nov. 21	NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CIF REGIONALS	TBA
Nov. 28	NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CIF REGIONALS	TBA
Nov. 30	STATE CIF CHAMPIONSHIP	TBA

FOOTBALL

DATE		PLACE	TIME
Oct. 18	KENNEDY	HERE	7:30
Oct. 25	DE ANZA	THERE	7:30
Nov. 01	BERKELEY	HERE	7:30
Nov. 08	PINOLE VALLEY	THERE	7:30
Nov. 14	SALESIAN	HERE	7:00

GO GAUCHOS!

STOP EAGLES!!

SA decides dance date

By Jamie Jung

The Homecoming Dance, this year, will be held after the Homecoming Game, as it has traditionally been.

After much debate, the dance date has finally been set for Friday, October 18, by the Leadership Class. The dance, which will start at 10:30 and stop at 12:30 was originally planned for Saturday, October 12, but complications in preparations caused a postponement.

This year's Homecoming Dance will cost $2.50 with an SA sticker or $3 with an ID card or $4 at the door. the I.D. cards are required this year.

Like at all dances, students visiting from other schools must be signed in when they arrive at the dance. Visiting students can be signed in where the tickets are purchased.

Music Videos were being considered for the dance, but because of cost, they cannot be shown. However, a composite mix of music is being planned.

Spirit cont

Also, the new group would cheer at all sports events, including those of both minor sports and women's sports, as well as at football and basketball games.

Considerations are also being made to rotate the twelve representatives so that each student would not be obliged to attend every game of all sports events. Representatives may even be changed occasionally to give as many students as possible a chance to participate on the squad.

According to teacher and spirit organizer Karen Simontacchi, the squad requires minimum time effort on the part of the students. However, students must be active in their Central Committees to participate.

Mr. Boles, the Administrative Vice-Principal, noted that by requiring students to be central committee members first, instead of being host to a popularity contest, the squad would be guaranteed dedicated members. According to Boles, "The results may be even better than before."

Simontacchi noted that the new squad would be "an outward focus activity," and would bring a "school focus" to sports events.

Boles summed it up when he remarked that the new squad would include "more kids," be "less expensive," involve "less time," and provide "more service" to the school.

Homecoming candidates for 1985-1986 King and Queen include sophomore King, Kurt Fisher, the junior couple of Kari Chew and Ralph Montejo, and sophomore Queen Marnie Elvin.

Homecoming cont

didn't express their confidence quite as plainly, but all the float committees were confident that their classes would come out on top.

The theme for the floats this year revolves around Gauchos vs. Eagles, but the classes are keeping their specific designs closely guarded secrets. The floats will all be constructed from the same basic materials: wood and chicken wire.

This year's senior queen and king will be Felicia Gray and Brian Lewis. Junior king will be Ralph Montejo, and his queen will be Kari Chew. The sophomores have elected Kurt Fisher and Marnie Elvin. And freshman king Torance Williams will be accompanied be LaRachelle Hood

The parade will leave from the El Cerrito Plaza on Friday, October 18.

NOTE: Seniors may have noticed something unusual on the Homecoming ballot this year. Running for Senior King and Queen were Andrew Sullivan and Seadon Wijsen. In case you don't know the two, they are both male. Either this fact escaped the administration, or else they decided to play along. According to some Seniors, the couple actually got some votes. Unfortunately, the student body will not be able to see Seadon in a dress at this year's Homecoming.

NEW TEACHERS ARRIVE

by Tom Donaghey

Five new teachers began teaching at El Cerrito High School on Monday, September 30 to offset the school's overcrowding problem.

The teachers, Mr. Giovannoni, Mr. Lee, Mr. Riggan, Mrs. Ray and Mr. Gallo, are teaching a variety of classes this year, ranging from ESL to computer sciences. In addition, several classes with very few students, such as Stagecraft, have been dropped to make room for more classes in overcrowded subjects.

Overcrowding has been a big problem this year at El Cerrito High. In an earlier interview, Mrs. Blackman, principal of ECHS, stated that about half of the 260 or so classes were overcrowded to some degree.

As a result, on Sept. 30, the schedules of some 800 students were changed to deal with the overcrowding. These changes ranged from major to minor; some students only had one teacher changed, while other students had their entire schedules rearranged by the counselors.

Some classes are still overcrowded, though. Blackman stated, "We really need six teachers, but we're only getting five." Even so, the problem of overcrowding is no longer as large as it was last month.

KECG returns

by Damon Fries

El Cerrito High School's student-operated radio station, KECG, has returned to the airwaves for another year of broadcasting. Located at 88.1FM, KECG broadcasts on school days from 7:30am - 6:30pm., unleashing 10 watts of power. Mainly a soul-oriented station, KECG will, however, boast a few alternative shows this year.

Tune it in and give your support. If you're interested in broadcasting, drop by room 400 during first period for information.

Happy Homecoming Gauchos!